

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 28, 2022
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on March 28, 2022 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

Present:	Mayor:	Mr. Beny Masella	
	Councillors:	Ms. Lauren Small-Pennefather	Seat 1
		Ms. Elizabeth Ulin	Seat 2
		Ms. Colleen Feeney	Seat 3
		Ms. Maria Torres	Seat 4

Also present: Me Raffaele Di Stasio, Director General
Me Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk
Ms. Elisabeth Roy, Communications Officer

Mayor Beny Masella acted as chairperson of the meeting.
Mr. Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Three (3) residents and visitors were in attendance.

1. Opening of the Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the Meeting be declared open.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-001

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Visitors

There was nothing under this item.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

To adopt the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 28, 2022 as presented.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-002

4. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

To approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 28, 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-003

5. Correspondence

There was nothing under this item.

6. Report of the Mayor

Mayor Masella reminded the audience about how the question periods will take place now that Council meetings can resume in person at the Town Hall. During the first one, Council will answer questions about any topic coming from the floor during 25 minutes maximum, after what it will address similar questions received through the website, also during a maximum of 25 minutes. In each case, residents will start with a short preamble, and then ask a main question and a follow up question, keeping in mind this is not a debate period. At the second question period, questions will follow the same format but will have to address items on the agenda; Council will first answer questions coming from the floor during a maximum of 10 minutes, and then those received on line during the meeting, for a maximum of 10 minutes. Turning to the new Sports and Recreation Center file, he mentioned a speech to the Rotary Club, which also gave him the opportunity to answer many question and publicly thank the Federal and Provincial Governments for their grant. He added that many things are in the planning stages. In particular, the Town is working with the architects on refining the functional planning program, and the consultation plan has been finalized. The first phase of the fundraising efforts is the silent phase. In this phase, the committee works on securing major donations from key donors. This base of donations will help drive the subsequent public phase that will allow a broader cross-section of people the ability to participate in the capital campaign.

7. Councillors' Reports

a) Seat Number 3

Councillor Colleen Feeney reported on matters pertaining to Finance, Recreation and topics related to the status of Age Friendly Municipality.

b) Seat Number 4

Councillor Maria Torres reported on matters pertaining to Urban Planning (1) and Environment (2).

c) Seat Number 1

Councillor Lauren Pennefather reported on matters pertaining to Public Security and Urban Planning (2).

d) Seat Number 2

Councillor Elizabeth Ulin reported on matters pertaining to Public Works, Communications and Environment (1).

8. First Public Question Period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the First Public Question Period at 8:25 p.m.

Residents in attendance were invited to ask the Mayor and Councillors questions concerning matters of general interest. Questions submitted in advance were also taken.

1. Ian Robinson

Commented the possibility that the Town ban fireplaces, he said that such a by-law should include a grandfather clause and advocated recent models which are less polluting, a factor that should also be taken into account if the Town adopts a regulation.

2. Daniel Gideon

Asked if a trash bin can be added besides the water valve house on Broughton, just east of Brock South. There is always a lot of garbage on the ground around that area, so if a garbage can is apparent and close by, most people will use it.

3. Barbara Jones

Noted that snow was being removed on a Sunday, although weather forecasts were clear in that no snow was expected in the coming days. Opined that it does not make financial sense to pay people overtime when snow could have been removed the following week.

4. Donna McLaughlin

Praising three Olympians who live in this town, the Lapointe-Dufour sisters who are world renowned medalists in snowboarding and skiing, she proposed to honor them with a reception and small plaque to be erected at the new sports center.

5. Patrice Archambault

Asked if it could be possible to have a garbage pickup every other week instead of every week, like other municipalities already do. There would be economic and environmental benefits to come from that change.

6. Kerry Lanthier

Asked if something can be done to clean up the sidewalks on Westminster especially in front of the stores between Curzon and Milner. He said that years ago a small team of Town workers would go by quite often sweeping the street and picking up garbage.

7. Ellen Moore

Asked if Montreal West has a pesticide by-law, and if so, how is it enforced.

8. Matthew Sherrard

Said he was surprised to read in the Informer that Council is considering a by-law to ban the use of wood fireplaces in Montreal West. This would be a significant issue for many residents. Asked for a public consultation on that matter, before moving ahead.

9. Désirée McGraw

Had two questions about the Royal Bank building on Westminster: 1. to make the most of limited commercial space, wondered if the Town placed any guidelines on how it might not be used, in order to avoid a crowded field of similar services; 2. and if the Town has considered purchasing it as a community space or even social enterprise.

10. Jim Mullaly

Had asked, along with other residents over the last eight months, for a properly indicated crosswalk on the north side of Sherbrooke near Westminster. The most recent response was that the Town waited for the work planned by CPR in the area of the train station, but he wondered how that work can negate the necessity of such a crosswalk.

11. Daniel Markuze

Noted that the four proposed depots for recycling used facemasks would all be located in the center of the Town and none in the North. He also asked for a pedestrian crossing between Curzon and Milner, just like the one across the Community Center.

The First Question Period ended at 8:47 p.m.

9. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

a) Recreation and Sports Center – donation contracts

WHEREAS a donation acceptance policy and donor relations program and guidelines were approved by Resolution # 20210531-011 within the scope of a capital campaign for the purpose of funding the planned Recreation and Sport Center in Montreal West;

WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate that private contributions be formalized through the signature of agreements that will abide with these guidelines;

THEREFORE:

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

That the Mayor be authorized to sign, on behalf of the Town, any donation contract within the scope of the capital campaign for a new Recreation and Sport Center.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-004

b) Environmental Action Committee – constitution

WHEREAS Council wishes to set up committees to address various matters of interest at the municipal level;

WHEREAS such committees may be helpful as management tools which enable the residents to provide their input and also in order to benefit from the advice of members of society in addressing a number of problematic situations;

THEREFORE:

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

1) To officially constitute the Standing Environmental Action Committee (EAC) of Montreal West which will be tasked with studying current issues pertaining to environment in the Town, and with making recommendations to Council by way of written reports to deal with actual and future needs.

2) To set up the mandate and membership of the EAC as follows.

Mandate:

- Address local environmental issues and offer advice and recommendations to Council;
- Encourage the Town to develop and adopt sustainability policies and strategic plans for a more environmentally friendly community;
- Sensitize Town residents and employees about sustainable practices which will enhance the well-being of the environment.

Membership:

- Two (2) Council members;
 - Maximum of ten (10) residents appointed by resolution every two years, or until the end of the mandate of the Councillor responsible for Environment, whichever comes first;
- 3) To repeal Resolution #20200831-005.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-005

10. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – February 25 to March 25, 2022

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the list of accounts payable from February 25 to March 25, 2022 totaling \$4,600,496.05 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-006

b) Delegation of powers for the month of March 2022

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

To approve the report of the Director General concerning the exercise of powers delegated under By-Law No. 2005-002 for the month of March 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-007

c) RBC investment certificates

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That Council ratify the administrative decisions made by the Treasurer on March 16, 2022 to invest in five guaranteed certificates of \$1,000,000 with the Royal Bank of Canada, each being for one year and cashable after 30 days (interest rate of 1.30 %).

Carried unanimously
#20220328-008

11. Urban Department

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

- 1) To acknowledge receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on March 23, 2022.
- 2) To approve as presented under the SPAIP the following plans submitted to this meeting, in accordance with the recommendations of the PAC as outlined in the minutes:

Address

Project

48 Courtney
223 Ballantyne N.

Modifications to the openings on the rear façade;
Construction of a two-storey extension in the back and
replacement of windows and doors, paint garage door,

37 Milner 252 Brock N. 209 Strathearn N. 75-77 Roxton	installation of windows shutters, and installation of a skylight; Replacement of the front stairs, landing, railings and canopy; Installation of railings on main entrance stairs and landing; Replacement of the front door, patio door and three windows; Capping the front stairs and landing in pavers and replacement of railings.
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3) To approve with conditions under the SPAIP the following plans submitted to this meeting, in accordance with the recommendations of the PAC as outlined in the minutes:

Address	Project
68 Ballantyne N.	Replacement of two windows;
144 Westminster N.	Replacement of the front door, a side door and two windows.

4) To defer the examination of the following plans to a next meeting of this Council, in accordance with the recommendations of the PAC as outlined in the minutes:

Address	Project
309 Brock N.	Extension of the main building in the back at the ground floor under the second floor addition, replacement of cladding material, and replacement of five windows and a door;
151 Ballantyne N.	Construction of a two-storey extension in the back, and replacement of windows and of a patio door;
7 Fairfield	Replacement of the front and garage doors;
61 Brock N.	Replacement of cladding material, windows and doors with modification to openings, and replacement of the front stairs, landing and railings;
149 Percival	Replacement of front stairs, landing and railings as well as the replacement of the front door, side lites and transom;
465 Westminster N.	Replacement of eleven windows.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-009

b) Minor exemption request – 4 Parkside

NOTE Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather summarized the issues involved in the following matter. She also noted that it had been advertised in the newspaper.

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

That the minor exemption request submitted to the February 23, 2022 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be refused, in accordance with the recommendation of this Committee, concerning the immovable located at 4 Parkside in zone RA-4, in order to allow that the rear setback of a main building be 2.96 metres instead of the minimum 6.1 metres, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 3.14 metres.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-010

12. Recreation and Culture

a) Veterans Affairs – Commemorative Partnership Program (Community Engagement Fund)

NOTE Mayor Masella noted that Councillor Small-Pennefather mentioned in camera that celebrations and commemorations are the core of her job as a civil servant at Parks Canada, although the matter under review does not involve any personal interests.

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the Town of Montreal West apply to the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs for a grant from the Community Engagement Fund under the Commemorative Partnership Program, undertake to comply with the Application Guidelines, and authorize Ms. Marian Scully, Culture, Seniors and Special Events Coordinator, to sign any necessary documents for this purpose.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-011

13. Human Resources

There was nothing under this item.

14. Appointments

a) Planning Advisory Committee

WHEREAS the Planning Advisory Committee is set up according to By-Law No. 2005-004 and the Act Respecting Land Use Planning and Development;

WHEREAS the Councillor responsible for Urban Planning and the Building Inspector (as a non-voting member) are automatically members of the Committee;

WHEREAS Council appointed six other regular members and four alternate members to the Planning Advisory Committee, by virtue of Resolutions #20181217-014(2) and #20211125-005;

THEREFORE:

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

1) That the following persons be appointed regular members of the Planning Advisory Committee until March 31, 2023:

- Alexandre Watson;
- Emily Dolan;
- Shayan Shafei.

2) That the following persons be appointed regular members of the Planning Advisory Committee until March 31, 2024:

- Sybil McKenna;
- Michel Aubé;
- George Kfourri.

3) That the following persons be appointed alternate members of the Planning Advisory Committee until March 31, 2023:

- Téo Boissonneault;
- Lauren Small-Pennefather.

4) That the following persons be appointed alternate members of the Planning Advisory Committee until March 31, 2024:

- Pietro Palanca;
- Sabina Kuepper.

5) That Resolutions #20181217-014(2) and #20211125-005 be repealed.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-012

b) Environmental Action Committee – membership

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

1) To appoint the following persons elected members of the Environmental Action Committee constituted by Resolution #20220328-005:

- Elizabeth Ulin, Chairperson
- Maria Torres, Vice-Chairperson

2) To appoint the following persons resident members of the said Committee:

- Philippe Bergeron
- Daniel Boulerice
- Laura Cousineau
- Haley Clarke-Cousineau
- Amy Kimball
- Katherine Lund
- Margo Pineau

- Colin Robertson
- Hailey Roop
- Julie Waters

Carried unanimously
#20220328-013

15. Deposit of Documents

a) Treasurer’s report on the financing of municipal election expenses

The report of the Treasurer on activities related to the financing of independent candidates and the control of election expenses was tabled with Council.

b) CMQ compliance audit report – sending of financial reports

The Commission municipale du Québec (CMQ) undertook in 2021 a compliance audit of the municipalities having a population lower than 100,000 residents, with respect to the applicable rules on the financial reports they must send to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The CMQ has now released its report and it was tabled at this meeting.

16. Notice of Motion, Reading and Adoption of By-Laws

a) Adoption of By-Law No. 2022-003 – By-Law amending By-Law No. 2020-007 Consolidating the By-Law Concerning Employees’ Pension Plan for the Town of Montreal West

WHEREAS a copy of this By-Law in draft version was previously tabled at a Council meeting when the notice of motion was given, and made available in accordance with the law;

WHEREAS the purpose and scope of this by-law were summed up at the present meeting;

THEREFORE:

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

That By-Law No. 2022-003 entitled “By-Law amending By-Law No. 2020-007 Consolidating the By-Law Concerning Employees’ Pension Plan for the Town of Montreal West” be adopted.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-014

b) Notice of Motion and Deposit of Draft By-Law for a By-Law Concerning the Traffic of Trucks and Tool Vehicles and Replacing By-Law No. 2018-008

Mayor Masella gave notice of motion that it is intended at a subsequent Meeting of Council to submit for adoption a “By-Law Concerning the Traffic of Trucks and Tool Vehicles and Replacing By-Law No. 2018-008”.

The said By-Law, in draft version, was tabled with Council and made available to the public.

17. Second Public Question Period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the Second Public Question Period at 9:05 p.m.

Residents were invited to ask the Mayor and Councillors questions concerning the matters on the agenda of this meeting.

18. Termination of the Meeting

At 9:06 p.m., no questions being asked,

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Collen Feeney and resolved:

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
#20220328-015

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20220328*